

# WISCONSIN WORKS (W-2) SERVICES

## FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

**FOODSHARE:** If you and your family need help paying for food, you may be eligible for the FoodShare program. FoodShare benefits come as a swipe card that can be used in most grocery stores. FoodShare has separate eligibility rules from W-2 and does not have a time limit or a requirement that you participate in activities. FoodShare can be given on an emergency basis. You can also volunteer for the **FoodShare Employment and Training Program (FSET)** that helps people find a job by participating in work activities and getting needed education and training.

**HEALTH CARE:** If you and your family need health insurance, you may be eligible for the Medicaid and BadgerCare programs. These programs provide health insurance to low-income families, children, and pregnant women to help keep families healthy. These programs have separate eligibility rules from W-2 and do not have a time limit or a requirement that you participate in activities. Families with higher incomes have a small monthly premium.

**CHILD SUPPORT:** If you need to get child support or medical support from your child's other parent, the Child Support program can help you get a court order. The Child Support program will also help you collect that support. You do not have to be low income to get these services. If you get W-2, you keep 75% of your child support payments.

**EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:** If you are homeless or you are about to lose your home because you cannot afford to pay your rent/mortgage or because you have had a fire, flood, natural disaster, or energy crisis, you may be eligible for the Emergency Assistance program. The Emergency Assistance program

gives eligible families money to pay for their rent/mortgage and other housing costs.

**REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE AND REFUGEE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE:** If you are an eligible refugee, you can get cash assistance and medical assistance from these programs.

## W-2

**W-2 PROGRAM:** If you do not have enough money to pay your bills and you need help finding and keeping a job or help applying for SSI, you may be eligible for the Wisconsin Works (W-2) program. You may also be eligible for monthly cash payments while you work with the W-2 program to look for a job or do other activities that will help you get a job or SSI. W-2 offers:

- **Trial Employment Match Program (TEMP):** If you need extra help finding a job, you may be eligible for a TEMP job. Under TEMP, you get on the job training with an employer who may hire you permanently. Your employer will pay you at least minimum wage.
- **Community Service Jobs (CSJ):** If you need work experience to help you prepare for work, you may get a CSJ. CSJs pay a monthly payment of up to \$653.
- **W-2 Transitions (W-2T):** If you are not ready to look for work because you or an immediate family member is disabled, you may be eligible for a W-2 T. W-2 Ts pay a monthly payment of up to \$608.
- **Case Management:** If you are ready for a job or you have a job and need help staying employed or getting the skills you

need to get a job with more hours, pay, or benefits, you may be eligible for case management services. Case management is available for anyone who meets W-2 eligibility. There is no monthly payment for people getting case management services.

## OTHER SERVICES:

- **Custodial Parent of an Infant (CMC):** If your child is 8 weeks old or less, you may receive a monthly cash payment of up to \$673 and not be required to participate in other work.
- **Minor Parents Services:** If you are a minor teen parent (under the age of 18) you can get information on available child care, high school and school-to-work, employment and financial planning services, FoodShare and health care information, and referrals to other community agencies.
- **Noncustodial Parents:** Even if your children don't live with you, you may be able to get skills training, job search assistance, a Job Access Loan, a stipend or TEMP job, and referrals to other community agencies.
- **Pregnant Women:** If you are a pregnant woman who is not a custodial parent of a dependent child and your doctor said your pregnancy is at-risk, you may be able to get a monthly cash payment of up to \$673. If your pregnancy is not at-risk, you may be able to get case management services and job search assistance. Case management services may include making the appropriate referral to child care resources or discussing employment goals.

- **Learnfare:** The Learnfare program helps children of W-2 participants attend and complete school.
- **Children's Services Network:** The Children's Services Network provides you information on housing, child welfare services, food pantries, and other resources in your community for both you and your children.
- **Emergency Payments:** If you are eligible for a monthly W-2 cash payment, you may also be able to get a one-time cash payment before you receive your first W-2 payment to assist with extreme financial problems.

#### WORK SUPPORTS:

- **Child Care:** If you need help paying for child care while you work, participate in W-2 or get to school or training, you may be eligible for the Wisconsin Shares Child Care program. Wisconsin Shares does not have a time limit. Most parents getting Wisconsin Shares must pay for part of their child care costs.
- **Job Access Loans:** If you need a loan to help pay for job-related expenses such as buying or repairing a car or buying special equipment for a job, you may be eligible for a Job Access Loan through your local W-2 agency. Job Access Loans must be repaid in cash, or a combination of cash and community service.
- **Transportation:** If you need help paying for transportation costs while you work, look for work, or participate in other W-2 activities, you may be eligible to get bus passes or gas vouchers from your local agency.

#### EDUCATION AND TRAINING:

- **W-2 Education and Training:** If you need education and training to help you find a job or get a better job, you may be eligible to get that education and training through the W-2 program. Education and training may include HSED/GED, Job Skills Training, Motivation, Life Skills, Employer-sponsored training, Literacy Education, English as a Second Language (ESL), technical college programs, and others.

Ask an agency representative today if you are eligible for these or any additional programs that your local W-2 agency may have.

Additional programs could include:

- Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP)
- Children First
- Workforce Investment Act (WIA)
- Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
- Women Infants and Children Program (WIC)



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For civil rights questions call (608) 422-6889 or 711 TTY (Toll Free).

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## *Building a Brighter Tomorrow*



### Benefits and Services offered with **Wisconsin Works** (W-2)



Please ask this local organization about any services listed in this brochure.